

A new species of *Tomares* from Talysh Mountains. (Lycaenidae)

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In the spring 1971 one of the authors (Effendi) collected in the upper part of the Talysh Mountains (Zuvand) a sample of unusual *Tomares*-specimens that occurred together with *T. callimachus* Eversmann and *Callophrys suaveola* Staudinger on flowering spheric plants of *Onobrychis cornuta*. Later on, some of these specimens were distributed among acknowledged collectors in Moscow and were found by Nekrotenko in the collection of Mr. A. V. Tsvetajev and some other private collections (see below) in course of preparation of a taxonomic revision of the genus *Tomares* Hübner. This butterfly is described here as a new species. Since 1971 we visited the type locality about six times, in early, mid and late spring, but, unfortunately, no additional specimens were found: this is the reason for its name derivation.

Tomares desinens sp. n.

Holotype ♂ USSR: Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic: Talysh Mountains: Zuvand: Hili-dara: 1800 m: 10. V. 1971: R. Effendi leg. Paratypes: 9 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀, same label data. Type material is located in the collection of the Institute of Zoology, Azerbaijan S.S.R. Academy of Sciences (Baku) and in private collections of Mr. A. V. Tsvetajev, Prof. Dr. A. M. Sladkov and Mr. V. A. Ganson (Moscow). Holotype and figured paratype female are located in the Lepidoptera Collection, Zoological Institute, U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences (Leningrad).

Diagnosis. Smallest representative of the genus *Tomares*. Distinct from all other species by exactly chequered (pure white and black) fringes and complete development of all wing pattern elements on the underside, without trace of green colour. Male genitalia similar to *T. romanovi* Christoph.

Description. Male (figs. 1-2). Length of the forewing of the holotype (base to tip) - 11.0 mm. General shape of wings and upperside wing pattern similar to that of *T. callimachus*, orange areas more rounded, without dentition over their outer limits (weakly visible on black-and-white photographs); dark brown ground colour does not penetrate

orange areas along veins. Hindwing upperside outer margin with exact black submarginal line. Fringes pure white, chequered with black streaks at the vein tips. Forewing underside with broad basal and subcostal brown areas and white marginal stripe separating the brown ground colour from submarginal black line. Space between discal and postdiscal black spots richly powdered with white scales. Brown basal area is closed distally by a pair of black spots, each being basally suffused with a white stripe. Hindwing underside looks highly maculate and bears almost complete five series of black spots, linked mutually with diffused bright white streaks. The white line between ground colour and black submarginal line vivid, strongly pronounced.

Female (figs. 3–4). Wing pattern similar to male, but orange areas of the wings upperside paler. Forewing shape is more rounded.

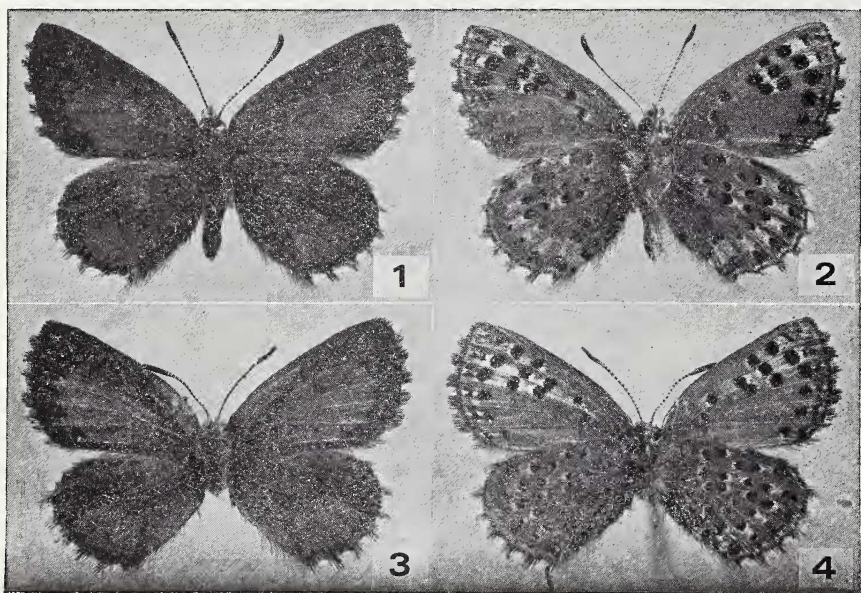


Fig. 1–4. *Tomares desinens*. 1–2, Holotype ♂, upper- and undersides; 3–4, paratype ♀, upper and undersides.

Male genitalia (figs. 5–7) characteristic to all species of *Tomares*: valvae narrow, thin, weakly chitinized, gradually narrowed toward filamentous apex, situated in one surface. The outer side of valva bears, in proximal third of its length well sclotized, styliform spine (feature common with *T. romanovi* – see figures in Nekrutenko (1978)). Phallus very long, slender, slightly curved at phallobase, with one elongated terminal cornutus.

Female genitalia (fig. 8) surprisingly large in comparison with male genitalia. Papillae anales almost triangular in lateral view, apophyses posteriores longer than papillae, slender, almost straight, apophyses anteriores lobiform, rounded, weakly pronounced. Ductus bursae strongly sclerotized, tubiform, with an oblique, pyriform ostium, bears characteristic granulations similar (homology?) to signa. Bursa copulatrix round ovate, slender, transparent, without signa or similar structures.

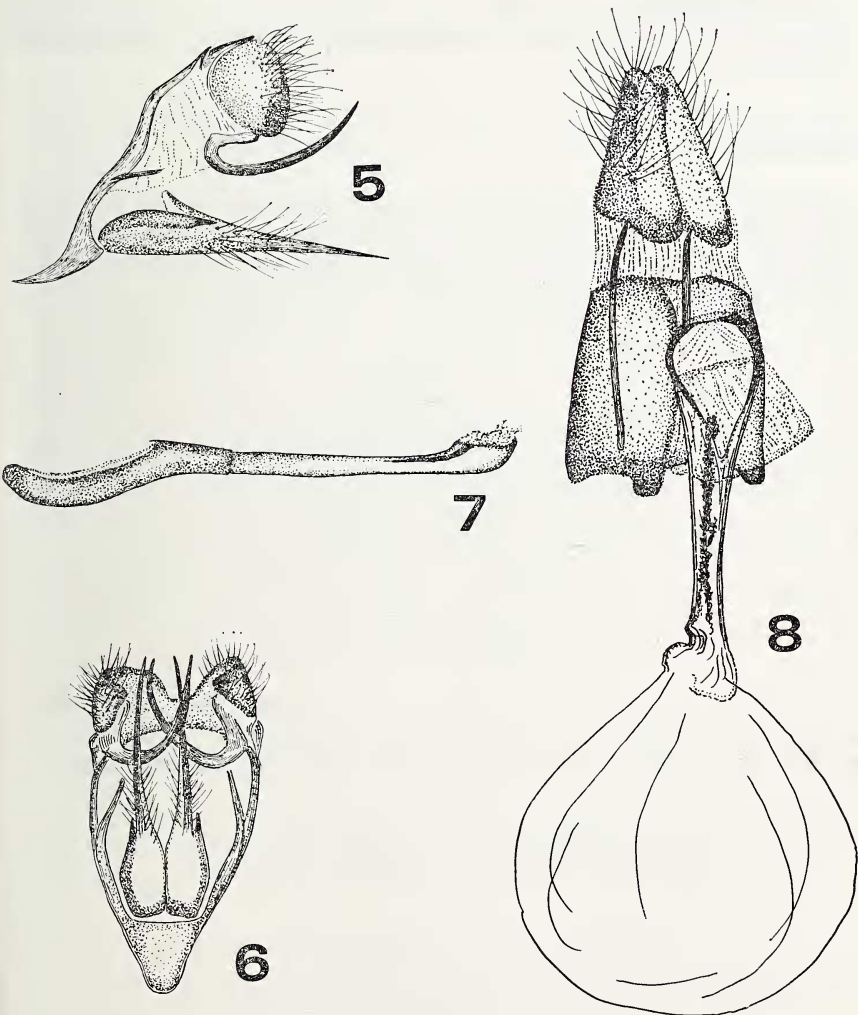


Fig. 5—8. *Tomares desinens.*, genitalia: 5—6, paratype ♂, lateral and ventral aspects, aedeagus removed; 7, aedeagus, lateral aspect; 8, paratype ♀.

The type locality is situated within semi-arid montane zone of Talysh, known under the name of Zuvand. The type material has been collected in Hili-dara valley, ca. 18 km to the West from Kosmoljan village, 1–2 km from U.S.S.R./Iran border. Most probably, the main population of *T. desinens* inhabits adjoining areas in Iran, where it may occur in abundance. As stated above, further collectors should draw their attention to the flowering plants of *Onobrychis cornuta* and, probably, *Astragalus* sp. sp.

Acknowledgement. Our sincere thanks are due to Dr. Musa A. Badalov of Lerik for his generous help and understanding during field collecting.

Reference

Nekrutenko, Y. P., 1978. Two New Subspecies of the Lycaenid Butterfly Subfamily Strymoninae (Lepidoptera, Lycaenidae) from East Georgia and West Azerbaijan. *Dopovidi Akademii Nauk Ukrainskoi R.S.R.*, ser. B, No. 1: 82–87 (In Ukrainian, English summary).